

***Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri):** For the same reasons and same spirit as regards to item No. 3 I oppose this demand. The idea is only to suggest to the Government that in spite of spending a nominal figure of Rs. 7,500 why not the Government consider the desirability of tiling this colony houses so that that section of our brothers may, with the help of Government, be able to house in tiled houses which after all is nothing objectionable for them. Thus the money spent for this recurring expenditure can be avoided. You will have only to look through the P. C. R. works then, and this amount can be utilised for it. Only a small portion will be necessary for that. There will also be an additional advantage of these brothers of ours being housed in tiled houses, at least in small tiled houses. It was to put this idea into the heads of Government that I took up this attitude and oppose this motion and I hope the Hon'ble Minister will be pleased to suitably respond to the very helpful suggestion that I made.

Mr. Parambi Lonappen (Minister for Rural Development): I have been able to see only a few of these colony houses in certain places and most of them, I have found, are thatched houses with low roofing and the rafters are mostly of the bamboo. I am not quite sure whether tiling these houses will be equitable to the colonies themselves because the roofs are not very high and there is no ceiling. I should rather think they will prefer thatched houses. Anyhow I shall enquire whether they will prefer tiled houses. The difficulty is that if these houses are to be tiled the shape of these houses will have to be changed considerably. That means immense expenditure. We will look into the matter.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): Please look into it.

Demand put and carried

8. Under "10—Stamps—Refunds"

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. (Chief Secretary to Government): I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 3,929 under "10—Stamps—Refunds".

The budget estimate for 1120 under "X—Stamps—Refunds" was Rs. 4,000 and the actual expenditure for the year came to Rs. 7,929. The excess of Rs. 3,929 has to be met by additional allotment. The increase is due to the increased sale of stamp papers during 1120. I hope the House will be pleased to grant the allotment.

Demand put and carried

9. Under "16—1—Huzur Secretariat—T. A."

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. B. E. (Chief Secretary to Government): I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 1,500 under "16—1—Huzur Secretariat—T. A. for the officers of the Secretariat".

Out of the budget provision of Rs. 8,500 under "16—Huzur Secretariat—T. A. of the officers of the Secretariat" a sum of Rs. 4,000 has been spent already. It is expected that in view of the T. A. to be paid to the two Secretaries to Government in connection with their tour to Delhi, the balance available will not be sufficient for expenditure in the remaining part of the year. A sum of Rs. 1,500 more will be required under the head. This has to be sanctioned as additional allotment. I request the House will be pleased to grant the allotment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): May I know, Sir, the purpose of these tours of the Secretaries?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon (Secretary to Government): I attended two meetings. One related to the bringing into force of Third Party Risks Insurance in the case of Motor Vehicles. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the possibility of bringing reciprocity between British and Indian States in this regard. The general sense of the meeting was that it was possible. We have already in our Motor Vehicles Act provided for this. That is to be brought into force with effect from next Chingam probably. It may have to be advanced on account of the fact that in British India it will be brought into force from 1st July.

Another meeting I attended was to enquire into the necessity and advisability of controlling the prices of Coconut Oil and other coconut products. It was certainly a very important subject about which this State is concerned and I am glad that our stand that the prices of coconut oil and other coconut produces should be fixed not arbitrarily and in hostile but only

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

after due considerations, was accepted. This question will again be considered by the Coconut committee which will be meeting at Bangalore very soon and the Government of India will about fixing the ceiling prices and other contracts consultation with the Coconut Committee.

Mr. C. J. Mathew (Secretary to Government): I attended for two days a Conference at New Delhi convened by the Government of India to consider the question of collection of Statistics for the Development of Industries. The Government of India is contemplating the nationalisation of industries on an all-India basis for which they require statistics regarding the nature of the machinery used, quantity of different kinds of raw materials required, type of labour employed, etc., existing factories in India. It was thought desirable that the representatives of the various Provinces and States should meet together and discuss the matter. So that statistics may be collected on a uniform basis, we have come to some tentative conclusions as to how and on what lines those statistics are to be collected. The States representatives pointed out that so far as the States are concerned the number of major industries are comparatively less than the number of minor industries and that the latter should also be brought within the purview of the general scheme. They have agreed to this suggestion.

When I was at Delhi, I also took advantage of that occasion to interview the Government of India authorities and place before them the fact that the incidence of the betel nut tax was felt as very heavy by the betel nut growers in our State. I believe it had some effect, because we now find that the Government of India have agreed to reduce the rate of tax from two annas a lb. of nut to one anna.

Mr. G. S. Dhara Singh (Mattancheri): An extra Service done to Cochin State.

Demand put and carried

10. "16-7—Committees—Allowances" and

11. "16-7—Committees—Contingencies"

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. (Chief Secretary to Government): I rise to move for additional allotments of Rs. 3,000 under "16-7—Committees—Allowances" and Rs. 300 under "16-7—Committees—Contingencies".

The budget provisions for the current year under "16-7—Committees—Allowances" and under "contingency" are Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 200 respectively. Of these Rs. 1,300 under allowances and Rs. 75 under contingency have been spent so far. In view of the constitution of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee and the subject committees it is expected that the balance available will not be sufficient for expenditure for the remaining part of the year. A further sum of Rs. 3,000 under "allowances" and a sum of Rs. 300 under "contingencies" will be necessary and these have to be sanctioned, as additional allotment.

I request the House will be pleased to grant the allotment.

Demands put and carried

12. "38—Income-tax—T.A."

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. B. E. (Chief Secretary to Government): I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 2,500 under "38—Income-tax—T.A."

The existing provision under the head "38—Income-tax—T.A." is only Rs. 3,000. An additional allotment of Rs. 2,500 under this head has become necessary for the following reasons.

1. The T. A. rates of the Income-tax Commissioner and the Deputy Income-tax Commissioner have increased consequent on the revision of their salaries.

2. Last year the Income-tax Inspector had to appear in appeal cases only before the Income-tax Commissioner. This year he has to appear before the Deputy Income-tax Commissioner also. Thus this year he has to tour more frequently than he had to tour last year.

3. According to the original arrangement, the term of the Additional Income-tax Officer was to expire by the end of Makaram 1121. But subsequently his term was extended to the end of the current year.

4. The Income-tax Inspector had to go to Madras in connection with an Income-tax reference.

I request the House may be pleased to grant the allotment.